

First Reading: February 27, 2007  
Second Reading: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007  
Third Reading: March 6<sup>th</sup> 2007  
Pass: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill 06-07-S  
Election Codes

**PURPOSE:** For the Student Senate to approve the Election Codes for the 2007 Spring Election.

**WHEREAS:** It is the responsibility of the Judicial Council to set rules and codes for all elections, and

**WHEREAS:** It is the constitutional responsibility of the Student Senate to approve all election Codes that are to be used to conduct election.

**THEREFORE:** The Student Senate does hereby approve the attached Election Codes for the 2007 Spring Election

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**SPONSORS:** Judicial Council

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**ATTACHMENTS:** 2007 Judicial Spring Election Codes

Spring 2007 Election Codes  
(Proposal 02/27/2007)

**Authority**

The Judicial Council shall enact and review election rules in accordance with Article IV, Section 5.7 of the Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution.

The following Election Codes apply for both Special Executive and Legislative Elections.

**Candidacy and Filing Procedures**

The Director of Public Relations, or a designated appointee, or necessary aid, pursuant to Article II, Section 7.5 of the SGA Constitution shall publicize all filing dates

In order to run for an office, a student must not file the day before the official starting day March 1, 2007 and no later than 5 p.m. on the final day March 21, 2007

An orientation meeting, which all candidates must attend, will be held before the election. Candidates who file but fail to attend this meeting shall be disqualified, unless an exemption by the Judicial Council has been granted.

The Judicial Council Chief Justice or a designated member of the Judicial Council shall notify all candidates of the meeting.

The Candidate's Packet (which shall consist of a schedule of dates and events, a cost estimates sheet, campaign finance forms, the telephone number of the Judicial Council members, the candidate profile sheet, and any other pertinent information) shall be distributed at the orientation meeting. If a candidate is granted an exemption he or she will have to arrange an alternative time to pick up candidate packets if an exemption is given.

Candidates will be required to sign an agreement affirming that they will abide by the election codes, the SGA Constitution, By Laws, Student Handbook, and agree to release their academic and discipline records to the SGA advisor.

The position of a candidate on the ballot shall be determined by a random drawing after the orientation meeting.

**General Election Guidelines**

Judicial Council shall meet once a week during the election campaign.

Candidates will be responsible for checking the window and/or door of the SGA office on a daily basis for any updates and/or rulings concerning the election. Electronic mail will also be sent as a courtesy to the candidates.

Material may be placed on bulletin boards and other areas designated by the Judicial Council.

Only one poster per candidate may be placed on each bulletin board.

No more than 3 posters per candidate should be within a 10- foot radius.

Placing material on departmental or official use bulletin boards is prohibited.

Material placed on bulletin boards should not exceed twenty (20) inches by twenty (20) inches.



There shall be no groups in favor of a candidate made by the candidate on Facebook.com or MySpace.com during the election process. Further, there is to be no advertisement space to be bought that advertises for a candidate in the election. There is also to be no writing on walls or messages sent through facebook or myspace that ask others to vote for a particular candidate. No campaigning is to be done by the candidate on facebook or myspace.com.

Mass emailing students for self-promotion purposes is prohibited.

Advertisement materials for a candidate must be kept five feet away from any computer labs, multipurpose rooms, or other areas that are designated to be prohibited from campaigning in these Election Codes.

There shall be no campaigning in classrooms while class is in session unless by the consent of the instructor.

There shall be no door to door campaigning in residence halls.

There shall be no campaign material distributed into or onto doors or doorways on campus.

Distribution of perishable food items shall be prohibited within 48 hours of any election.

No campaigning or material shall be placed in any Student Government Association or special session meeting.

There shall be no distribution of physical campaign material, or placement of material, inside, or in the immediate vicinity, of computer lab, multi-function rooms (i.e. computer classrooms) or library.

All candidates shall remove all campaign material from university property no later than five (5) days after election.

No unauthorized person shall be allowed to remove or deface any material of any candidate.

#### **Candidate Finance Guidelines**

Candidates shall be required to adhere to following limitations:

- Presidential candidates shall spend no more than \$ 450
- Executive Vice Presidential candidates shall spend no more than \$ 400
- All other Executive Cabinet candidates shall spend no more than \$350
- All candidates for the Student Senate shall spend no more that \$50

No student or organization shall contribute more that \$100 in total donations. Total contributions may not exceed the spending limit for the office being sought as prescribed above.

An exact report of itemized expenditures and contributions shall be filed with the Judicial Council in the SGA office, DUC 130:

By the given date in the election package (March 21, 2007)

#### **Election Results**

The Judicial Council Chief Justice shall report the results of the election to the candidates once the votes have been verified (12:01 Am April 5, 2007).

The election results shall be posted in the SGA office, and made available to the media within twenty-four (24) hours of the election.

### **Appeal Procedure**

All appeals, protests, and disqualifications regarding the general election must be filed within three (3) business days after the release of the election results. (April 6, 2007).

The Judicial Council shall immediately investigate the situation and act as necessary and appropriate with their findings.

If any SGA candidate is found in violation of the election code after the election has been held, the violator will be subject to judicial review and may be disqualified. A new election may be held for that office.

The Judicial Council shall make a report of their rulings regarding appeals, protests, and disqualifications at the following Legislative meetings.

### **Online Election Procedures**

Internet polling will take place for two days from April 3, 2007 12:01 a.m. to April 4, 2007 11:59 p.m. of the second day.

The computer-based program will compile the results of online elections. Results of these votes will be picked up from the Information Technology by the SGA advisor or appointee and a designated member of the Judicial Council.

Any solicitation of Social Security Number and/ or Student Identification Number by a candidate or agent of a candidate will result in immediate disqualification pending investigation by Judicial Council.

Polling places used by a campaign shall be prohibited.

The Judicial Council shall request that in all computer labs one computer is left open to be available for voting purposes only.

The Judicial Council will request that IT record IP Addresses of computers used to vote in order to track any possible improprieties in voting.

WHEREAS: Students can interact with faculty and administrators, and

WHEREAS: Student Government Association work will benefit the university as a whole.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University will hereby approve the establishment of Student Government Week in order to make the student body more aware of what Student Government Association has done and is doing for the students.

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SPONSORS: Student Affairs Committee

CONTACT: Amanda Allen